1	KEVIN P. ALLEN, State Bar No. 252290 kallen@aghwlaw.com				
2	ALLEN, GLAESSNER, HAZELWOOD & WERTH, LLP 180 Montgomery Street, Suite 1200				
3	San Francisco, CA 94104 Telephone: (415) 697-2000				
4	Facsimile: (415) 813-2045				
5 6	Attorneys for Defendants CITY OF SUNNYVALE and OFFICER JOHN BOGNANNO				
7					
8	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT				
9	NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA				
10					
11	JOHN DOE,	Superior Court of Santa Clara Case No.			
12	Plaintiff,	22CV405055			
13	v.	REQUEST FOR JUDICIAL NOTICE IN SUPPORT OF NOTICE OF REMOVAL OF			
14	DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, et al.,	ACTION UNDER 28 U.S.C. § 1441 (FEDERAL QUESTION); DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL			
15	Defendants.				
16					
17	Pursuant to Federal Rule of Evidence 201, defendants CITY OF SUNNYVALE and				
18	OFFICER JOHN BOGNANNO by and through its attorneys, request the Court take judicial				
19	notice of the following:				
20	1. Attached as Exhibit "A," plea	se find a true and correct copy of the complaint filed			
21	in the Superior Court of the State of Californ	ia, in and for the County of Santa Clara, entitled			
22	John Doe vs. Department of Justice of the St	ate of California, et al., case number 22CV405055.			
23	2. Attached as Exhibit "B," plea	se find a true and correct copy of all process,			
24	pleadings, and orders served on Defendant in	Santa Clara Superior Court case number			
25	22CV405055, that are not already identified	in Ex. "A."			
26	The court may review "materials of which the court may take judicial notice," Barron v.				
27	Reich, 13 F.3d 1370, 1377 (9th Cir.1994), including public records and "proceedings in other				
28	courts, both within and without the federal ju	idicial system, if those proceedings have a direct			

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	1	relation to matters at issue." Bias v. Moynihan, 508 F.3d 1212, 1225 (9th Cir. Nov.2007) (quoting		
	2	Bennett v. Medtronic, Inc., 285 F.3d 801, 803 n. 2 (9th Cir.)	2002).	
	3			
	4	Respectfully:	submitted	
	5	Dated: December 13, 2022 ALLEN, GLA		
	6	HAZELWOO	DD & WERTH, LLP	
	7		in P. Allen	
م.	8 9		P. ALLEN s for Defendants F SUNNYVALE and OFFICER JOHN	
표 표	10	BOGNA	NNO	
HAZELWOOD & WERTH, LLP ery Street, Suite 1200 co, California 94104	11			
Suite Suite nia 94	12			
<b>ZELW</b> Street, Califor	13			
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		2	NTC OF REMOVAL - RJN CASE NO:	

CASE NO:

# **EXHIBIT "A"**

E-FILED

Page 1

9/30/2022 4:35 PM Clerk of Court 1 Michael Millen Superior Court of CA, Attorney at Law (#151731) County of Santa Clara 2 119 Calle Marguerita Ste. 100 22CV405055 Los Gatos, CA 95032 Reviewed By: A. Tam 3 Telephone: (408) 871-2777 Fax: (408) 866-7480 4 mikemillen@aol.com 5 Attorney for Plaintiff 6 7 8 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALFORNIA 9 COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA 10 NO.: 22CV405055 JOHN DOE, 11 Plaintiff, (Limited Civil Case – Over \$10,000) 12 COMPLAINT FOR CIVIL RIGHTS v. 13 **VIOLATION** DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE OF THE STATE 14 OF CALIFORNIA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA. 1. 42 U.S.C. § 1983 CITY OF SUNNYVALE, OFFICER JOHN 2. False Arrest 15 BOGNANNO, and DOES 1 to 50, 3. Negligence 4. Information Practices Act – Civil 16 Defendants. Code §1798 et seq 17 18 Plaintiff alleges as follows: 19 1. Plaintiff John Doe is a resident of the County of Santa Clara, California. Because of the 20 nature of the allegations herein, plaintiff is identified by a pseudonym in order to preserve 21 confidentiality and to avoid any potential opprobrium, pursuant to applicable law, including 22 Starbucks Corp. v. Superior Ct. (2008) 168 Cal.App.4th 1436. 23 2. Defendant State of California is a constituent state in the United States of America and 24 has as one of its departments the Department of Justice. 25 3. The City of Sunnyvale is a municipal corporation in the State of California. The City of 26 Sunnyvale has, as one of its constituent parts, a Department of Public Safety which, among other 27 things, provides police services. 28 Michael Millen, Esq. 119 Calle Marguerita #100

**COMPLAINT** 

Los Gatos, CA 95032 (408) 871-0777

- 4. At all times relevant to this complaint, John Bognanno was a sworn officer employed by the City of Sunnyvale in its Department of Public Safety.
- 5. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on that basis alleges, that each of the fictitiously named defendants were in some manner legally responsible for the unlawful actions, unlawful policies, and unlawful practices alleged in this complaint. Plaintiff will amend the Complaint to set forth the true names and capacities of said defendants, along with the appropriate charging allegations, when the same have been ascertained.
- 6. Venue is proper in this county because Plaintiff was wrongfully arrested and wrongfully jailed in this county.

#### **ALLEGATIONS CONCERNING PLAINTIFF**

- 7. In October 2005, Plaintiff was convicted (via plea) of a misdemeanor violation of California Penal Code §314.1 (indecent exposure) in a Santa Clara County Superior Court criminal case. For the years 2005 through 2020 Plaintiff registered as per Penal Code §290 et seq. at the Sunnyvale Police Department.
- 8. On March 17, 2021, the Santa Clara County Superior Court entered an order vacating the judgment of conviction in said criminal case and dismissing the charges. Because Plaintiff was no longer a person who had been convicted of an offense requiring registration under Penal Code §290 et seq., Plaintiff had no ongoing legal duty to annually register at the police department.
- 9. In or about June 2021 Plaintiff was concerned that Plaintiff's criminal history record at the California Department of Justice ("DOJ") was incorrect and erroneously continued to show a conviction in said criminal case despite the fact that said conviction had now been vacated. Plaintiff wrote a letter to the DOJ informing them that the criminal conviction had been vacated and included a paper copy of the March 17, 2021, court order.
- 10. On or about July 2, 2021, the DOJ, in writing, acknowledged receipt of Plaintiff's June 2021 letter and stated that "Modification or deletion of this information can only occur at the direction of the contributing agency or by order of the court having jurisdiction over the criminal matter. As such, please be advised your claim of alleged inaccuracy or incompleteness is in

process." A copy of the letter is attached as Exhibit A (with noted redactions for privacy). Plaintiff received no further communication from the DOJ regarding the matter.

- 11. In or about October 2021, Plaintiff took a paper copy of the March 17, 2021, Order and gave it to an officer at the Sunnyvale Police Department. Plaintiff explained to the officer on duty that Plaintiff was no longer required to register. During this brief meeting, the officer did not object or otherwise dispute Plaintiff's explanation of the situation nor did the officer suggest that Plaintiff did in fact have a continuing duty to register.
- 12. On or about January 9, 2022, Plaintiff went to the Sunnyvale Police Department to obtain a police report related to a recent traffic incident. To Plaintiff's great shock, Plaintiff was arrested and put into jail on the charge of violation of Penal Code §290/§290.012 (failure to register). Plaintiff is informed and believes that the police officer who arrested Plaintiff was John Bognanno. Plaintiff was released many hours later that same day. To obtain release from jail, Plaintiff had to sign a promise to appear at court. Plaintiff honored the commitment to appear and in doing so missed work in the process, causing financial loss. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that this Penal Code §290/§290.012 charge against Plaintiff was dismissed and no further proceedings occurred.
- 13. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Plaintiff was arrested by the Sunnyvale Police partly, if not wholly, because the DOJ failed to promptly correct DOJ records concerning Plaintiff after receiving credible information that the DOJ records were now incorrect, and the unlawful practice of the Sunnyvale Police is to rely substantially (if not exclusively) on DOJ records in determining whether a person has as duty to register as per Penal Code §290 et seq. even if the police are presented with contrary information suggesting the DOJ records are incorrect. It is also unclear as to whether the Santa Clara County Superior Court did or did not promptly notify the DOJ of the March 17, 2021, reversal of Plaintiff's conviction and subsequent dismissal. If it did not then it, too, shares responsibility as well for Plaintiff's harm.

### ALLEGATIONS CONCERNING TORT CLAIMS COMPLIANCE

- 14. In regard to the State of California, plaintiff has complied with the California Govt.

  Tort Claims Act. Plaintiff, through counsel, filed a Claim regarding these matters with the Cal.

  Dept. of General Services which noted the claim as being as received on April 8, 2022. Plaintiff, through counsel, filed an Amended Claim with the same department which was noted as being received on June 17, 2022. Plaintiff has not received any formal response from the State Dept. of General Services accepting or denying either the original Claim or the Amended Claim. Over 45 days have elapsed since said claims were submitted.
- 15. Also in regard to the State of California, plaintiff, through counsel, filed a Claim regarding these matters with the Judicial Branch on May 24, 2022, by presenting said claim to the Santa Clara County Superior Court. The Judicial Council of California rejected this claim on June 27, 2022.
- 16. In regard to the City of Sunnyvale, plaintiff filed a claim with the City regarding these matters on March 2, 2022. Plaintiff, through counsel, filed an Amended Claim on April 11, 2022. On May 6, 2022, the City of Sunnyvale gave formal notice that both claims were rejected in their entirety.

#### **ALLEGATIONS CONCERNING**

#### CRIMINAL OFFENDER RECORD INFORMATION

- 17. The DOJ is composed of various constituent parts, with one such part being called the "California Justice Information Services Division" ("CJIS") which professes as its mission the responsibility "to provide accurate, timely, and comprehensive criminal history and analysis data to its client agencies, which include California's local police and sheriff's departments, district attorneys, and local and state regulatory agencies." (<a href="https://oag.ca.gov/careers/descriptions/cjis">https://oag.ca.gov/careers/descriptions/cjis</a>).
- 18. The data kept by the CJIS is specifically defined in 22 Cal. Code of Regulations §100343.1 as follows:
  - "Criminal Offender Record Information" or "CORI" means records and data compiled by criminal justice agencies for purposes of identifying criminal offenders and of maintaining as to each such offender a summary of arrests, pretrial

proceedings, the nature and disposition of criminal charges, sentencing, incarceration, rehabilitation, and release.

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Michael Millen, Esq. 119 Calle Marguerita #100 Los Gatos, CA 95032 (408) 871-0777

### IMPORTANCE OF CORRECT CORI RECORDS

19. The DOJ's CORI records are used in wide variety of settings which fundamentally affect the ability of California residents to function in society. District Attorneys use CORI when they charge criminal enhancements and also when making charging decisions for criminal suspects based in part upon whether the suspect's CORI shows a checkered past. Police use CORI to determine whether a subject has violated a registration requirement (such as wrongly happened with Plaintiff) and as a guide in investigating and questioning "likely suspects". Judges use CORI to determine the severity of sentencing for apparent repeat offenders while state licensing bureau administrators use CORI to determine whether an applicant is eligible for a license. Employers may rescind job offers and landlords may deny housing to those whose CORI shows convictions. In short, outdated or incorrect CORI can completely deny citizens the ability to effectively work or live in California.

### FAILURE TO MAINTAIN ACCURATE CORI RECORDS

#### AND INSTITUTE REASONABLE PROCESSES FOR CORRECTIONS

- 20. The California Legislature has recognized the importance of accurate CORI and in Penal Code §11126 has set forth a detailed procedure for the DOJ to follow when someone (deemed an "applicant") requests that their CORI record be corrected. Once the DOJ agrees that the record is incorrect based upon the applicant's provided source material, the DOJ has 30 days to inform the applicant of the correction. If the DOJ questions the applicant's source material it may request that the outside agency clarify the record and respond within 30 days. Once the DOJ refuses to alter the record it must notify the applicant within 30 days and offer him or her the right to an administrative adjudication.
- 21. As comprehensive as this remedial CORI corrective scheme may appear, there are several glaring omissions in these timelines such that there is no mention of:

- A) The length of time the DOJ has to begin, and then complete, its initial review of the record review request and submitted material;
- B) The length of time the DOJ has to make its final decision if records are not needed from an outside agency;
- C) The length of time the DOJ has to request that an outside agency clarify the record and then process the outside agency's response and give a final decision.
- 22. The DOJ has neither allocated sufficient staff nor appropriate processes and policies to carry out, in a reasonably timely fashion, its duty to maintain accurate CORI and to correct inaccurate CORI. It is well aware of the unacceptable backlog times CJIS has in regards to correcting clearly erroneous records and the harm that these incorrect records cause the public.
- 23. The DOJ's unacceptable handling time was amply demonstrated by the fact that the DOJ, after being presented with a copy of a court order showing Plaintiff's conviction having been reversed and the case dismissed, did not correct Plaintiff's CORI even after the elapse of seven months. Given that the court order could have been verified as authentic by contacting the court itself or the Deputy District Attorney who handled the matter (and whose email and phone contact information was listed on the order), there was no legitimate reason for Plaintiff's CORI to remain inaccurate for so long apart from lack of training, understaffing and/or unworkable bureaucratic regulations and rules.
- 24. An obvious partial-solution to this problem would be to spend additional funds hiring CJIS staff to clear the backlog. Assuming that the fully burdened cost of a document verification clerk is \$125,000 per year, CJIS could hire 80 clerks for \$10 million. However, in the 2020-2021 budget, the governor *reduced* the CJIS budget by \$10 million and instead shifted the \$10 million to the Bureau of Forensic Services (which provides DNA testing and on-site crime scene support). (See 2020-2021 DOJ budget Analysis, <a href="https://lao.ca.gov/handouts/crimjust/2021/DOJ-Budget-021021.pdf">https://lao.ca.gov/handouts/crimjust/2021/DOJ-Budget-021021.pdf</a>, p. 3).

1 FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION 2 (VIOLATION OF 42 U.S.C. §1983) 3 (As Against City of Sunnyvale and Officer John Bognanno Only) 4 25. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all preceding paragraphs as if fully restated here. 5 26. The City of Sunnyvale and its police officers knew or should have known that Plaintiff 6 was no longer required to register under Penal Code §290 et seq. once they were presented with the 7 court order which vacated that conviction. 8 27. The unlawful seizure, arrest, and other actions and inactions of the defendants and their 9 employees, representatives and agents constitute either intentional conduct and/or grossly negligent 10 violations of the right to be free from unjust, arbitrary, unreasonable and capricious governmental 11 action which violates the constitutional rights of the Plaintiff secured by the First, Fourth, Fifth and 12 Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution and 42 U.S.C. §1983. 13 28. The City of Sunnyvale failed to issue policies and supervise and train its enforcement 14 officers to adequately document in the file and research the legal necessity of continuing §290 15 registration for residents whom the City had reason to believe may have been relieved of 16 registration requirements. 17 29. Plaintiff suffered damage and is entitled to compensation therefore. 18 19 SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION 20 **State Law (False Arrest and False Imprisonment)** 21 (As Against All Defendants) 22 30. Plaintiff incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 to 24 as if fully restated here. 23 31. Plaintiff had previously provided documentary proof to both the Sunnyvale Police 24 Department and the DOJ that, as of March 17, 2021, there was no lawful conviction against 25 plaintiff for violation of any law requiring registration pursuant to Penal Code §290 et seq. 26 27 28

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- 32. Nevertheless, the Sunnyvale Police Department falsely arrested and imprisoned plaintiff, and plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that this was done partially or wholly based upon incorrect information provided by the DOJ.
  - 33. Plaintiff suffered damage and is entitled to compensation therefore.

#### THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

#### State Law (Negligence)

### (As Against All Defendants)

- 34. Plaintiff incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 to 24 as if fully restated here.
- 35. All Defendants had a legal responsibility for the receipt, retention, management, correction, release, and usage of their records.
- 36. Defendants breached those these duties in numerous ways including, but not limited, to the following: (a) keeping inaccurate records in their files concerning Plaintiff's criminal history and P.C. §290 registration requirements when Defendants knew or should have known that the records were inaccurate; (b) failing to implement policies and procedures to timely follow up on in information which, on its face, showed that their records were incorrect; (c) failing to hire, train, and monitor sufficient staff to ensure that inaccurate or changed records were corrected in a reasonable amount of time; (d) immediately upon receipt of information which, on its face, showed that Defendants' records concerning plaintiff were incorrect, to place some sort of note or flag on the file which would clearly communicate to the receiver of those records that the accuracy of the record was in question and should not be relied upon without independent verification; (e) delaying in transmitting correct information to any state or local agency for whom a Defendant was responsible to so transmit.
- 37. Plaintiff suffered damage caused by Defendants' breaches and is entitled to compensation therefore.

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Los Gatos, CA 95032

1	FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION
2	State Law (Information Practices Act – Civil Code §1798 et seq.)
3	(As Against The State of California)
4	38. Plaintiff incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 to 24 as if fully restated here.
5	39. Under Civil Code §1798.18, all departments of the State of California have a duty to
6	"maintain all records, to the maximum extent possible, with accuracy, relevance, timeliness, and
7	completeness" and, when transferring someone's record outside of state government, "shall correct,
8	update, withhold, or delete any portion of the record that it knows or has reason to believe is
9	inaccurate or untimely."
10	40. The DOJ and the State of California (of which the DOJ is a constituent part) is liable
11	under Govt. Code §815.6 for its failure to comply with Civil Code §1798.18.
12	41. Under Civil Code §1798.45(b), plaintiff may bring a civil action against the DOJ and
13	the State for its failure to maintain its records concerning plaintiff with accuracy, relevancy,
14	timeliness, and completeness because, as a proximate result of such failure, plaintiff was
15	incorrectly and adversely determined to have a duty to register under Penal Code §290 et seq. and
16	by consequence wrongfully arrested.
17	42. Plaintiff suffered damage caused by the Defendants' breach of this statutory duty and is
18	entitled to compensation therefore.
19	
20	WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays that this Court:
21	ON THE FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION:
22	1. Award general and special damages to plaintiff;
23	2. Award costs, interest and attorneys' fees to plaintiff pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §1988 and
24	other pertinent federal law;
25	3. Grant such other and further relief as the court deems just and proper.
26	
27	ON THE SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION:
28	
Esq.	

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1	1. Award general and special damages to plaintiff;			
2	2. Award costs to plaintiff;			
3	3. Grant such other and further relief as the court deems just and proper.			
4				
5	ON THE THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION:			
6	1. Award general and special damages to plaintiff;			
7	2. Award costs to plaintiff;			
8	3. Grant such other and further relief as the court deems just and proper.			
9				
10	ON THE FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION:			
11	1. Award general and special damages to plaintiff including those available under Civil			
12	Code §1798.48(a);			
13	2. Award costs and attorney's fees to plaintiff pursuant to Civil Code §1798.48(b);			
14	3. Grant such other and further relief as the court deems just and proper.			
15				
16				
17	$\Omega \propto \Lambda$			
18	Dated: September 30, 2022			
19	MICHAEL MILLEN, ESQ.			
20	ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF			
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Michael Millen, Esq. 119 Calle Marguerita #100 Los Gatos, CA 95032 (408) 871-0777

COMPLAINT

Page 10

**JURY DEMAND** Plaintiff hereby requests a jury trial in this matter. Dated: September 30, 2022 MICHAEL MILLEN, ESQ. ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF Michael Millen, Esq. 119 Calle Marguerita #100 Los Gatos, CA 95032 (408) 871-0777 COMPLAINT Page 11

# **EXHIBIT "B"**

ROB BONTA
Attorney General



Bureau of Criminal Information and Analysis

Record Review and Challenge Section
P.O.Box 160207
Sacramento, CA 94203-4170

7/2/2021

**REDACTED** 

Re:

California Criminal History Information

CII # .REDACTED

Dear

REDACTED

This correspondence is in response to your written communication dated 6/25/2021, regarding your claim of alleged inaccuracy or incompleteness in your California state summary criminal history record as maintained by the California Department of Justice (DOJ).

Under California Penal Code Sections 11120-11126, the Record Review and Challenge Section assists individuals who would like to order a copy of their own California summary criminal history record, and dispute the material matter contained therein.

The DOJ is required, pursuant to California Penal Code section 11105(a)(2), to record specific arrest, disposition, and personal identification information when reported by a law enforcement agency or court of this state. Modification or deletion of this information can only occur at the direction of the contributing agency or by order of the court having jurisdiction over the criminal matter. As such, please be advised your claim of alleged inaccuracy or incompleteness is in process. Upon conclusion of the DOJ's findings, you will receive a written response.

If you have further questions or concerns regarding your record review, please direct your correspondence to the Record Review and Challenge Section at the address provided above.

Sincerely,

Record Review and Challenge Section Record Quality Services Program Bureau of Criminal Information and Analysis

For ROB BONTA Attorney General

RR-21 04/2021

**ATTACHMENT CV-5012** 

### **CIVIL LAWSUIT NOTICE**

Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara 191 North First St., San José, CA 95113

CASE NUMBER: _	22CV405055	
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### PLEASE READ THIS ENTIRE FORM

<u>PLAINTIFF</u> (the person suing): Within 60 days after filing the lawsuit, you must serve each Defendant with the *Complaint*, *Summons*, an *Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Information Sheet*, and a copy of this *Civil Lawsuit Notice*, and you must file written proof of such service.

#### **DEFENDANT** (The person sued): You must do each of the following to protect your rights:

- 1. You must file a **written response** to the *Complaint, using the proper legal form or format,* in the Clerk's Office of the Court, within **30 days** of the date you were served with the *Summons* and *Complaint*;
- 2. You must serve by mail a copy of your written response on the Plaintiff's attorney or on the Plaintiff if Plaintiff has no attorney (to "serve by mail" means to have an adult other than yourself mail a copy); and
- 3. You must attend the first Case Management Conference.

Warning: If you, as the Defendant, do not follow these instructions, you may automatically lose this case.

**RULES AND FORMS:** You must follow the California Rules of Court and the Superior Court of California, County of <\_CountyName\_> Local Civil Rules and use proper forms. You can obtain legal information, view the rules and receive forms, free of charge, from the Self-Help Center at 201 North First Street, San José (408-882-2900 x-2926).

- State Rules and Judicial Council Forms: www.courtinfo.ca.gov/forms and www.courtinfo.ca.gov/rules
- Local Rules and Forms: <a href="http://www.sccsuperiorcourt.org/civil/rule1toc.htm">http://www.sccsuperiorcourt.org/civil/rule1toc.htm</a>

<u>CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE (CMC):</u> You must meet with the other parties and discuss the case, in person or by telephone at least 30 calendar days before the CMC. You must also fill out, file and serve a Case Management Statement (Judicial Council form CM-110) at least 15 calendar days before the CMC.

You or your attorney must appear at the CMC. You may ask to appear by telephone – see Local Civil Rule 8.

The 1st CMC is scheduled for: (Completed by Clerk of Court)  Date: 02/28/2023Time: 3:45 PM in Department:	19
The next CMC is scheduled for: (Completed by party if the 1st CMC was continued or has passed)	
Date: Time: in Department:	

<u>ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ADR):</u> If all parties have appeared and filed a completed *ADR Stipulation Form* (local form CV-5008) at least 15 days before the CMC, the Court will cancel the CMC and mail notice of an ADR Status Conference. Visit the Court's website at <a href="https://www.sccsuperiorcourt.org/civil/ADR/">www.sccsuperiorcourt.org/civil/ADR/</a> or call the ADR Administrator (408-882-2100 x-2530) for a list of ADR providers and their qualifications, services, and fees.

WARNING: Sanctions may be imposed if you do not follow the California Rules of Court or the Local Rules of Court.